

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-07

NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00

NSC-05 /064 W

-----100220Z 106049 /14

P 091940Z MAY 77

FM USMISSION NATO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3533

SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY

INFO CINCLANT NORFOLK VA

USLOSACLANT NORFOLK VA

USNMR SHAPE BE

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 NATO 02935

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MPOL, NATO, DPC

SUBJECT: DPC MINISTERIAL COMMUNIQUE (SECOND REVISE)

1. THERE FOLLOWS IN PARA 2 THE SECOND REVISED DRAFT DPC MINISTERIAL COMMUNIQUE (J DE G (77)48), WHICH THE DEFENSE REVIEW COMMITTEE WILL ADDRESS ON MAY 12. WE WILL PROVIDE COMMENT SEPTTEL.

2. BEGIN TEXT OF J DE G (77)48:  
DEFENSE PLANNING COMMITTEE -- 17TH-18TH MAY, 1977

DRAFT COMMUNIQUE (2ND REVISE)

- THE DEFENSE PLANNING COMMITTEE IN MINISTERIAL SESSION MET IN BRUSSELS ON 17TH-18TH MAY, 1977.

2. MINISTERS REVIEWED THE DISCUSSION ON DEFENSE MATTERS  
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AT THE MEETING OF THE NORTH ATLANTIC COUNCIL HELD IN LONDON ON 10TH-11TH MAY AT THE LEVEL OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENTS. IN RESPONSE TO RECOMMENDATIONS MADE AT THIS MEETING FOR IMPROVING ALLIANCE DEFENSES, MINISTERS AGREED THAT THE ALLIANCE SHOULD, AS A MEANS OF STRENGTHENING ONGOING NATO FORCE PLANNING AND NATIONAL PROGRAMS, UNDERTAKE A LONG-TERM DEFENSE PROGRAM TO IMPLEMENT 1977

MINISTERIAL GUIDANCE AND TO ADAPT NATO'S DETERRENT AND DEFENSE POSTURE TO THE NEEDS OF THE 1980S. IN THIS REGARD THEY DIRECTED THE DEFENSE PLANNING COMMITTEE IN PERMANENT SESSION TO PREPARE A TIME-PHASED DEFENSE ACTION PROGRAM CONCENTRATING ON A LIMITED NUMBER OF PRIORITY AREAS WHERE COLLECTIVE ACTION IS URGENTLY REQUIRED, FOR MINISTERIAL APPROVAL AT THEIR SPRING 1978 MEETING. TO COMPLEMENT THIS EFFORT, MINISTERS AGREED TO INITIATE ON A MORE IMMEDIATE BASIS A PROGRAM OF SHORT-TERM MEASURES IN THE HIGH-PRIORITY AREAS OF ANTI-ARMOR, WAR RESERVE MUNITIONS, AND READINESS AND REINFORCEMENT.

3. MINISTERS NOTED WITH INTEREST A STATEMENT BY MR. ORLA MOLLER, THIS YEAR'S CHAIRMAN OF THE EUROGROUP MINISTERS, ON CURRENT WORK IN THE EUROGROUP IN ENHANCING COLLABORATION FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE WHOLE ALLIANCE. THEY TOOK NOTE WITH SATISFACTION OF THE PROGRESS ACCOMPLISHED IN THE VARIOUS FIELDS OF PRACTICAL COOPERATION COVERED BY THE EUROPEAN SUB-GROUPS.

4. IN A GENERAL REVIEW OF THE STRATEGIC SITUATION AND THE MILITARY BALANCE BETWEEN NATO AND THE WARSAW PACT, MINISTERS HEARD A STATEMENT BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE MILITARY COMMITTEE. THEY EXPRESSED THEIR CONCERN AT THE STEADY EXPANSION OF WARSAW PACT MILITARY CAPABILITIES WHICH HAVE GREATLY INCREASED THE POWER AND FLEXIBILITY OF WARSAW PACT FORCES; AND THAT THESE FORCES ARE INCREASINGLY OFFENSIVE IN POSTURE AND NOW CAPABLE OF SUPPORTING THE SOVIET UNION'S POLITICAL INTERESTS ON A GLOBAL SCALE. IN  
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THE LIGHT OF THESE DEVELOPMENTS WHICH ARE SERIOUSLY TO NATO'S DISADVANTAGE, THEY STRESSED THE URGENT NEED FOR NATO NOT ONLY TO MAINTAIN BUT TO IMPROVE ITS DEFENSIVE CAPABILITIES.

5. MINISTERS TOOK NOTE OF THE CURRENT STATE OF THE NEGOTIATIONS ON MUTUAL AND BALANCED FORCE REDUCTIONS (MBFR) AND THE STRATEGIC ARMS LIMITATIONS (SALT).

6. MINISTERS REVIEWED PROGRESS IN COOPERATIVE PROGRAMS AND REAFFIRMED THE URGENT NEED FOR GREATER ALLIANCE COOPERATION, NOTING THAT THE EFFECTIVE USE OF RESOURCES DEPENDS LARGELY ON PROGRESS MADE IN THIS AREA. THEY AGREED THAT NATO'S DEFENSE PLANNING SHOULD BE BASED ON A LONGER-TERM APPROACH AND WOULD HAVE TO BE STRENGTHENED TO ENSURE THAT NEEDED COOPERATIVE MEASURES CAN BE CARRIED OUT EFFECTIVELY.

7. IN THIS REGARD, THEY WELCOMED THE EMPHASIS BEING PLACED BY THE CONFERENCE OF NATIONAL ARMAMENTS DIRECTORS

ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF AN ARMAMENTS PLANNING SYSTEM AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF FURTHER COOPERATIVE EFFORTS. IN ADDITION, MINISTERS RECOGNIZED THE NEED FOR GREATER INTER-OPERABILITY AND SECURITY OF ALLIANCE COMMUNICATIONS AND AGREED TO GIVE THEIR PERSONAL DIRECTION AND SUPPORT TO ACHIEVING THIS OBJECTIVE. MINISTERS AGREED THAT THE DEVELOPMENT AND PROCUREMENT OF ALL FUTURE COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS SHOULD BE SUBJECT TO PRIOR CONSULTATION, WITH CONSIDERATION GIVEN TO COLLABORATION AMONG ALL THE ALLIES CONCERNED.

8. IN PARTICULAR, MINISTERS CONSIDERED A REPORT ON THE

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NSC-05 /064 W

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 NATO 02935

NATO FLEXIBILITY STUDIES. THESE STUDIES IDENTIFY, WITH A VIEW TO REMEDIAL ACTION, VARIOUS FACTORS WHICH MILITATE AGAINST THE FULL EFFECTIVENESS OF NATO'S FORCES AT SEA, ON LAND AND IN THE AIR. THEY NOTED WITH SATISFACTION THAT ACTION WAS BEING TAKEN ON MANY OF THESE PROPOSALS AND THAT A NUMBER OF THEM HAD BEEN COMPLETED. THEY DIRECTED THAT EVERY EFFORT BE MADE TO SOLVE THE OUTSTANDING ISSUES.

9. (BEGIN BRACKETS) MINISTERS ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THE UNITED KINGDOM HAD DECIDED TO PROCEED WITH THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE AIRBORNE EARLY WARNING NIMROD AS A CONTRIBUTION IN KIND TO A NATO AIRBORNE EARLY WARNING CAPABILITY. THEY RE-AFFIRMED THEIR SUPPORT FOR SUCH A CAPABILITY, AND ENDORSED

THE ACTIVITIES CURRENTLY UNDERWAY TO PREPARE A REVISED  
PROPOSAL BASED ON A (BEGIN BRACKETS) POSSIBLE (END BRACK-  
ETS) (BEGIN BRACKETS) INTEROPERABLE (END BRACKETS)  
(BEGIN BRACKETS) MIXED (END BRACKETS) FORCE OF E-3A AND  
NIMROD AIRCRAFT. (END BRACKETS)

10. INFRASTRUCTURE. (TEXT TO FOLLOW).  
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11. MINISTERS NOTED WITH SATISFACTION THE PROGRESS SO FAR  
MADE TOWARD MODERNIZING PORTUGAL'S ARMED FORCES WITH THE  
ASSISTANCE OF CONTRIBUTIONS FROM ALLIES OF MATERIAL AND  
TRAINING FACILITIES, WHICH WILL ENABLE PORTUGAL TO IN-  
CREASE ITS ROLE IN ALLIANCE DEFENSE. THEY STRESSED,  
HOWEVER, THE CONTINUING NEEDS OF PORTUGAL AND TURKEY FOR  
FURTHER EXTERNAL ASSISTANCE AND THE VITAL IMPORTANCE FOR  
ALLIANCE SOLIDARITY AND SECURITY OF EARLY COMPLETION AND  
IMPLEMENTATION OF DEFENSE COOPERATION AGREEMENTS AFFECTING  
THE SOUTH-EASTERN FLANK.

12. IN ACCORDANCE WITH NATO'S ESTABLISHED PROCEDURES,  
MINISTERS GAVE GUIDANCE TO THE NATO MILITARY AUTHORITIES  
FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF FORCE PROPOSALS FOR THE  
PERIOD UP TO 1984; AND AGREED THAT THE GUIDANCE SHOULD BE  
ADOPTED AS A DIRECTIVE AND REFERENCE POINT FOR ALL  
DEFENSE PLANNING ACTIVITIES BOTH NATIONAL AND INTER-  
NATIONAL IN NATO. A SUMMARY OF THE GUIDANCE IS AT ANNEX.  
END TEXT. (COMMENT: TEXT OF ANNEX PROVIDED SEPTEL.  
END COMMENT). STREATOR

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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009